



**U.S. Department  
Of Agriculture**

**Pinal County FSA**  
**520 N Camino Mercado**  
**Suite 2-F**  
**Casa Grande, AZ 85222**  
520/ 836-1960  
520/836-1297 FAX

**Hours**

Monday - Friday  
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**County Committee**

Don England, Jr., Chair  
Daniel Nowlin, V-Chair  
John O Nevitt, Member  
Alex Blaine, Advisor

**Staff**

Lori Emmert, PT  
Angie Carranza, PT  
Shirley Mallory, PT  
Patrick Fox, PT  
Kathy Fanning, PT  
Michelle Ontiveros, PT

**Farm Loan Staff**

Shawneen Stevenson, FLM  
Kent Erickson, FLO

**County Executive  
Director**

Debbie Hopkins

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Storm Damage

COC Election Nomination

Rural Youth Loan  
Program

Prevented Planting  
Deadline

All Crop Certification  
Deadline

*Farm Service Agency*

# FSA UPDATES

**June  
2006**



**Do to the Storms that hit Pinal county in the early days of June, we would like to remind producers that you have 15 days from which the damage became apparent to report all crop damage to your local FSA office, to update your crop certification records and comply with Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)**



*We Support our men and women in the Armed Forces.*



## **Certification Deadline**

**July 15, 2006** is the deadline to certify all spring planted crops. Please call and set up an appointment to complete your 2006 Acreage Report.

Certify cotton, corn, sorghum, alfalfa, spring planted fruits/vegetables and **all other** land use.

Producers are reminded that non-insured crops (mostly **fruits and vegetables**) **are to be certified within 15 days after planting. \*\*\*Certification is required of all acreage (to include citrus and rangeland) annually under Farm Bill 2002**

*Late certification of all crops requires a late file fee of \$ 25.00 per farm plus \$2.00 per field for measurement service.*

*Late enrollment (June 2<sup>nd</sup> through Sept 30, 2006) \$100.00 per farm plus applicable certification fees*

## **New Lien Search Policy**

For MAL requests in amounts greater than \$25,000, FSA County Offices and DMA's must:

- Conduct lien searches
- Perfect the security interest in these pledged commodities as provided under the applicable State law.

If CCC is considered to be at risk on MAL request that are in amounts less than \$25,000, FSA County Offices may:

- Conduct lien searches
- Perfect the security interest in these pledged commodities as provided under the applicable State law, without regard to the amount.



## **Youth Project Loans**

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other youth organizations. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5000.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Live in the open country or in a town of less than 10,000 people
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the project and the loan, along with providing adequate supervision.

Stop by the county office. We'll help prepare and process the application forms and answer any questions you may have about the program. Remember, FSA is an equal opportunity lender. Information on FSA can also be found on the FSA home page at **[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)**

## Procedure For Prevented Planting

*All prevented planting must be certified on the FSA 578 (acreage report) **NO LATER THAN 15 DAYS AFTER THE FINAL PLANTING DATE.***

Final Planting dates for:

- ✓ Sorghum July 31<sup>st</sup>
- Please contact your local FSA Office to verify deadlines for all prevented planted crops.

### **COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR LAA 11 – Northeast Pinal County** (North of Coolidge, Queen Creek to Globe)

From June 15 through Aug. 1, farmers and ranchers can nominate eligible peers as candidates for election to the Pinal County Farm Service Agency county committee.

Nominations may be you, another producer in same area, women in agriculture, minorities, socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. All are encouraged to apply. The Farm and Rural Investment Act of 2002 significantly expanded the requirements of the agency to expand its county committee members to include all interested participants. All applications must be submitted on form FSA-669A available on website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections> , by mail or in person at Pinal County FSA Office.

*“Our goal is to have as many eligible candidates nominated to serve on FSA county committees as possible. We want to encourage everyone to get involved,” said Debbie Hopkins Pinal County Executive Director. This year we hope you’ll consider nominating a farmer or rancher you know will make a real difference in his or her community.*

Committees apply their judgment and knowledge to make decisions on county commodity price-support loan eligibility, establishment of allotments and yields, conservation programs, disaster

programs, employment and other farm program-related issues.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Nominations and elections are open to all eligible candidates and voters without regard to race, color, religion, nation origin, age, sex, marital status or disability.

Producers should keep in mind several important dates regarding the upcoming county committee elections. Producers can request, fill out and submit nomination forms up to August 1st. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 3rd. The deadline to return ballots to FSA is December 4th.

For more information about FSA county committees, visit a local USDA Service Center or go online at:  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections>

## ***Preventing Fraud, Waste***

The Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency are partners in preventing fraud, waste and abuse in the Federal Crop Insurance Program. FSA has been, and will continue to, assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. In addition, FSA will refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse to RMA.

Producers can report suspected cases to the county office staff, RMA or the Office of the Inspector General.

### ***This Newsletter.....***

***...is the primary method we have of contacting you, our customer, directly. Our goal in producing the newsletter is to make you aware of the availability of farm programs and to periodically remind you of certain program requirements.***



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Pinal County Farm Service Agency  
520 Camino Mercado, Ste. 2-F  
Casa Grande, AZ 85222

Presorted Standard  
US Postage Paid  
Williston, ND 58801  
Permit No. 8

## IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

June	15 <sup>th</sup>	County Committee Nomination begins
July	4 <sup>th</sup>	Office Closed - Independence Day
	15 <sup>th</sup>	Certification of all other Crops (see article)
	31 <sup>st</sup>	Sorghum Prevented Planting Deadline



FSA Homepage: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

Arizona State FSA Homepage: [www.fsa.usda.gov/edso/az/az.htm](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/edso/az/az.htm)

USDA eCommerce Home (forms web site): <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov/Main.asp>

**NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the county office at the phone number listed above.

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for persons with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment upon request. If accommodations are required, please call Debbie Hopkins, CED, at 520/836-2028